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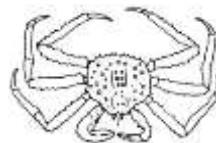
# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### NEWS RELEASE



*Sam Cotten, Commissioner*  
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Date: February 16, 2018  
Time: 11:30 a.m.

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#### COMMERCIAL GOLDEN KING CRAB ANNOUNCEMENT NORTH STEPHENS PASSAGE AREA CLOSURE DATE

Petersburg . . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today that the commercial golden king crab fishery in the North Stephens Passage Area will close at 12:00 noon, **Monday, February 19th, 2018**. Based on an analysis of effort levels and harvest projections, the harvest as of the closure date is expected to reach the 10,000-pound GHL for the North Stephens Passage Area. Permit holders are reminded that call-in requirements remain in effect for all current registrants. Permit holders are also requested to notify the department when they change areas or cease fishing.

The department will continue to monitor fishery performance via harvest ticket/logbook and port sampling data for the remaining open areas: Icy Strait, Northern, Mid-Chatham Strait, Lower Chatham Strait, and Southern. Additional management actions may be taken as necessary and the department will provide as much advance notice as possible for future area closures.

A vessel may leave gear in a stored condition for five days after the closure of a portion of Registration Area A [5 AAC 34.127(2)]. All gear must be removed from the North Stephens Passage Area no later than 12:00 noon, February 24, 2018.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1C0518.

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
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